



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Employment Commission  
703 East Main Street

Dolores A. Esser  
Commissioner

Post Office Box 1358  
Richmond, Virginia 23218-1358

For Release: February 27, 2009  
Contact: Joyce G. Fogg  
(804) 786-7592  
[www.VaEmploy.Com](http://www.VaEmploy.Com)

## Unemployment Benefits included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

**RICHMOND**—The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced today that additional unemployment benefits are a part of the money received by Virginia from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, known as the stimulus package. An addition to weekly benefits, funding for reemployment services, and extended benefits are included.

Unemployment Compensation benefits will increase by \$25 per week. The first week for which the \$25 can be paid is the benefit week ending February 28, 2009. The last week the \$25 can be paid is the benefit week ending June 26, 2010. The VEC will be working diligently to update software programs, but it is expected to be six to eight weeks before this programming is accomplished and payments can be made. The VEC will pay retroactive amounts in one payment.

Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) was extended to December 31, 2009, and claims for these benefits will be processed through May 31, 2010. For those individuals who have already exhausted their extended benefits, there is no provision to include them in this new extension. Those who are eligible for an extension of funds will be contacted by mail.

Funds are also designated for the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.

####